



## **THE BRIGITTE TRUST**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 6.30pm held online via Zoom conference**

**Members Present:** Jan Way, Peter Lagerberg, Anne Sutton, David Farmery, Ian Norman, Mary Guypinkney, Nick Johnson, Roger Davis, Jean Collins, Alison Thorp, Vanessa Smith, Pam Chiverton, Sue Waddell, Liz Dolman,

**Proxy Votes:** Ramesh Mahboobani, Lesley Pearce, Deirdre Lay, David Finnigan

**Guests:** Lucy Beach, Ingrid Walker, Sarah Pattenden, Sonia Monaghan, Mandy East, Katie Heyward

**Minutes:** Peter Lagerberg

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from the patrons: Sir Paul Beresford, Nicolas Owen, Sir Adrian White, Corinna Lady Hamilton and the President: Michael More-Molyneux.

#### **2. Welcome & Introduction**

Jan welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that the meeting would be relatively short and focused and would follow the normal AGM format. Jan introduced the trustees and staff members who were in attendance.

#### **3. The Treasurer's Report – David Farmery**

David tabled some slides and provided an overview of the results for the year. David noted that the results were for the year ended in March 2021. David highlighted that the results showed a surplus of circa £107k, which was exceptional particularly given this was achieved during the Covid pandemic period. David noted that grant funding was the main driver of this increase in

surplus, and grant funders had been very supportive of the Trust during the pandemic. However donations and fundraising activity had reduced during the period. The grant funding income for the current year is likely to reduce.

David noted that the reserves for the charity were also strong at £335k as at the end of the year. Overall the year had been exceptional and meant that the reserves of the trust were now strong, but the high reserves may mean that it may be more difficult to get new grants. Next year there may be a small loss because of this, and as the Trust invests the funds to achieve its charitable purposes

#### **4. Approval of the minutes of the Last AGM**

The adoption of the minutes of the last meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2020 was approved unanimously.

#### **5. To receive and adopt the Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

This motion was approved unanimously. It was therefore resolved to receive and adopt the Financial Statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

#### **6. To appoint Ellis Atkins as the independent auditors to the Trust and to authorise the Trustees to fix the remuneration of the Auditors.**

This motion was approved unanimously. It was therefore resolved to receive and adopt that the meeting appoints Ellis Atkins as the independent auditors to the Trust and that the trustees be authorised to fix the remuneration of the Auditors.

#### **7. Election of Trustee**

The motion to elect David Farmery to the Board of Trustees was approved unanimously.

#### **8. Chair's Report – Jan Way**

Jan gave an update on the year and noted how quickly and effectively the staff had responded to the pandemic and came up with new ways of working. This was helped by the trusts strong position with its partners, and the work that had been done with the rebranding work. Jan thanked the staff for their hardwork and ingenuity in coping with the difficult circumstances. Jan

looked forward to meeting the staff and volunteers next year at various forums. Jan also thanked all the volunteers and trustees for their hard work.

#### **4. Charity Manager's Report – Lucy Beach**

Lucy started by thanking the staff, volunteers and trustees for their contribution during the year.

Lucy then provided an overview of the year, and noted that a lot of the activity had had to be moved to telephone and Zoom. The trusts activities were up on a range of measures – for example the number of calls and clients, and 18 lite touch training sessions, and many other activities that were moved to Zoom. A number of the new telephone volunteers were converted to full volunteer status. Volunteer numbers remain strong – with 105 currently. Lucy noted that Vanessa has left the trust during the year, but has been replaced by Tanya.

Lucy noted that the Trust has developed some new activities – for example a bereavement support group has been established and this is likely to be extended in the new year. A death café has also been established, and these too are to be extended next year. A coffin club is also being established which will help participants to prepare for death. A number of fundraising events were also held during the year, and these helped to support the Trusts financial position and thanks were given to the organisers. The various new initiatives are helping to build a stronger offering for the public and for grant funders.

Jean Scott, who was a former chair of the Trust, endorsed the comments about how the trust had progressed in many ways, in particular with the progress on grant funding, the branding and the new activities that have been set up.

#### **5. Closing Remarks**

The Chair closed the meeting by thanking guests, supporters, members and staff for their attendance and for their ongoing support of the Trust.

The meeting closed at 7pm.